



Clerk: Ms. Fiona Young, 32 Holdenby Road, Spratton, Northampton. NN6 8JD
 Tel: 07729 608062 email: clerk@westhunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
 www.westhunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, Held on Thursday June 15th 2023
 at 7pm Parsons Meade Community Centre**

Members Present: Councillors Linda Hook (Chairman) , Mavis Wilmshurst, David Garrett , Richard Matthews, Soosan Phillip and Kathryn Barker.

Also present– Fiona Young (Clerk)

Northampton Ironstone Railway – Gordon Peacock and Steve Godfrey

Item no	
23/91	<p>To receive any apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Carl Squires, Cllr Colin Moore, WNC Cllr Suresh Patel.</p>
23/92	<p>To receive any pecuniary and non-pecuniary Declarations of Interest in respect of items on the agenda None given</p>
23/93	<p>To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on May 18th 2023 It was Resolved to approve the minutes and they were signed as a true record.</p>
23/94	<p>Public Session. Two members of the Northampton Ironstone Railway spoke to Councillors, there is now a new committee managing the railway and a lot of improvements are planned. Two coaches have already been repaired since January, the aim is to make the whole site more appealing. A councillor asked about the level crossing and the poor condition that this is in, it was explained that the level crossing is owned by West Northants Council and they are responsible for its maintenance not NIRT. A copy of the lease is being sent to WNC so that they are aware of their responsibilities. NIRT do not have the finance available to undertake repairs to the crossing. The Chairman asked that any promotional material for events etc is sent to the Clerk so that the council can advertise the events on the council website. The two representatives from NIRT were thanked for attending the meeting.</p> <p>A member of the public mentioned that Green Lane has been in a very poor and muddy state for most of the Spring, the drainage appears to be an issue however it has now dried up in the warm weather. The resident also mentioned the Russian vine which is taking over in one particular area of the lane.</p>

23/95	<p>To Receive Reports from</p> <p>a) Police Representative. Crime report –1 Vehicle crime.</p> <p>b) West Northants Councillors. Cllr Andre Gonzales de Savage spoke to the council, he explained that West Northants Council is currently working on amalgamating all the different websites of the previous councils, i.e Daventry District, Northampton Borough etc and pulling them all into one main website.</p> <p>The fencing at the border with the Milton Ham development was discussed, Cllr Gonzalez de Savage explained that the West Northants enforcement team have no powers to make Travis Perkins repair the fencing, the Chairman explained that this was surely a Health & Safety issue as there is barbed wire in the fence which is a hazard to children and dogs using the park. Cllr Gonzalez de Savage confirmed that he will keep trying to get the fence improved.</p> <p>Cllr Chauhan addressed the meeting, she explained that the adoption of Green Lane by WNC is likely to take a considerable amount of time. The piping under Ladybridge Drive has now got a temporary fix on it. There is concern that a property in Aviemore Gardens has built a boundary wall facing onto Green Lane which has broken up the natural hedge line of the lane. It was explained that Green Lane is on the agenda for later in the meeting, please see agenda item 23/104.</p> <p>The removal of the Stagecoach bus service was briefly mentioned, it was reported that unfortunately a reinstatement of the bus is extremely unlikely. This is also a separate agenda item later in the meeting.</p>
	<p>At this point it was agreed that Item 23/105 Bus Service would be moved up the agenda to allow discussion whilst the two WNC were still in attendance.</p>
23/105	<p>Bus service – to discuss the response from Stagecoach to the council’s letter regarding the cessation of the bus service and to agree any further action.</p> <p>Two councillors voiced the opinion that the response the parish council had received from Stagecoach was very disappointing, the councillors felt that the response was a standard one and showed no compassion for the people of West Hunsbury. Both the Clerk and the WNC Cllrs reminded council that Stagecoach are purely a commercial company, they have no obligations to the community that they operate in.</p> <p>A councillor suggested that it would be more beneficial now for the parish council to focus on sustainable alternatives to the service provided by Stagecoach. It was suggested that Ability Bus CIC could help with this.</p> <p>WNC Cllr Pinder Chauhan suggested that a public meeting is held during which members of the public can ask the officers at WNC what can be done to improve the bus service. It was suggested that the meeting could be managed as a parish council meeting, however, it was agreed that a completely separate public meeting would be better. Cllr Chauhan agreed to let the PC know what dates and times would be suitable.</p> <p>Cllr Matthews proposed that a second letter is sent to Stagecoach reiterating how disappointed the parish council is with the decision to remove the bus service, the proposal was briefly discussed and then voted on. The decision was tied with 3 votes for and 3 against. As Chairman of the meeting, Cllr Hook had the casting vote and voted for sending another letter. It was Resolved that the council would send another letter to Stagecoach bus company and that Clls Hook and Barker would write the letter which would be</p>

	approved by all before sending.																															
23/96	To receive brief reports from Councillors or Clerk attending outside meetings on behalf of WHPC and to receive Clerks report. The Clerk attended two courses with Ncalc, Community Infrastructure Levy and Risk Assessments. The Clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting, there were no questions or comments.																															
23/97	Matters arising from previous minutes, for report only <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation from the Clerk that the Annual Return and corresponding paperwork has been sent to the external auditors. Confirmation that the Clerk arranged for the renewal of the councils annual insurance policy and agreed to a 3 year long term agreement as agreed in the May meeting. 																															
23/98	Finance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution to approve the payments tabled below for June <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Payable to</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Details</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Amount £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fiona Young</td> <td>Salary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">848.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>NI & Tax</td> <td style="text-align: right;">242.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northants Acre</td> <td>Membership fee</td> <td style="text-align: right;">42.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BHIB</td> <td>Insurance premium</td> <td style="text-align: right;">351.56*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Discount displays</td> <td>A board</td> <td style="text-align: right;">115.14*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DCK Payroll</td> <td>April, May & June fee</td> <td style="text-align: right;">36.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fiona Young</td> <td>Zoom reimburse, March, April & May</td> <td style="text-align: right;">47.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2Commune</td> <td>Website upgrade</td> <td style="text-align: right;">900.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Royal Mail</td> <td>Survey responses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">121.80</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>There were two additional payments which were not listed on the agenda but the expenditure for them had been previously approved. They are £900 for the upgrade of the councils website and £121.80 from Royal Mail for the parish plan survey responses.</p> <p>It was Resolved to approve the payments listed above for June.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation that the internal controls councillor has completed the checks to the payments. <p>The internal controls checks were not completed this month and will be done in July.</p>		Payable to	Details	Amount £	Fiona Young	Salary	848.44	HMRC	NI & Tax	242.94	Northants Acre	Membership fee	42.00	BHIB	Insurance premium	351.56*	Discount displays	A board	115.14*	DCK Payroll	April, May & June fee	36.00	Fiona Young	Zoom reimburse, March, April & May	47.97	2Commune	Website upgrade	900.00	Royal Mail	Survey responses	121.80
Payable to	Details	Amount £																														
Fiona Young	Salary	848.44																														
HMRC	NI & Tax	242.94																														
Northants Acre	Membership fee	42.00																														
BHIB	Insurance premium	351.56*																														
Discount displays	A board	115.14*																														
DCK Payroll	April, May & June fee	36.00																														
Fiona Young	Zoom reimburse, March, April & May	47.97																														
2Commune	Website upgrade	900.00																														
Royal Mail	Survey responses	121.80																														

	<p>3. Resolution to approve the bank reconciliation statements for 31st May 2023</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="260 241 916 667"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">WHPC Bank Rec 31.05.2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Current Account as at April 1st 2023</td> <td>£</td> <td>5,304.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deposit Account as at April 1st 2023</td> <td>£</td> <td>45,302.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less Payments</td> <td>£</td> <td>8,583.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plus Receipts</td> <td>£</td> <td>12,500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£</td> <td>54,522.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current Account as at 31.05.2023</td> <td>£</td> <td>9,220.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deposit Account as at 31.05.2023</td> <td>£</td> <td>45,302.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£</td> <td>54,522.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Completed by F Young RFO 31.05.2023</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The bank reconciliation statement was noted and approved.</p>	WHPC Bank Rec 31.05.2023			Current Account as at April 1st 2023	£	5,304.27	Deposit Account as at April 1st 2023	£	45,302.20	Less Payments	£	8,583.99	Plus Receipts	£	12,500.00	Total	£	54,522.48	Current Account as at 31.05.2023	£	9,220.28	Deposit Account as at 31.05.2023	£	45,302.20	Total	£	54,522.48	Completed by F Young RFO 31.05.2023		
WHPC Bank Rec 31.05.2023																															
Current Account as at April 1st 2023	£	5,304.27																													
Deposit Account as at April 1st 2023	£	45,302.20																													
Less Payments	£	8,583.99																													
Plus Receipts	£	12,500.00																													
Total	£	54,522.48																													
Current Account as at 31.05.2023	£	9,220.28																													
Deposit Account as at 31.05.2023	£	45,302.20																													
Total	£	54,522.48																													
Completed by F Young RFO 31.05.2023																															
23/99	<p>Hunsbury School Leavers gift – Resolution to agree to fund the purchase of gifts for the school leavers up to the agreed amount of £500. It was Resolved to pay the grant towards the purchase of school leaver gifts, thought to be pencil cases, the amount paid will be approx. £500.</p>																														
23/100	<p>Speedwatch Update The Chairman explained that the Community Speedwatch had taken place in West Hunsbury earlier in the Spring and 32 Police warning letters had been generated.</p>																														
23/101	<p>Councillor Surgery Volunteers are required for the new Councillor surgery at Hunsbury Library on the third Saturday in June, July and August. One extra councillor is needed for both the June and August surgery dates.</p>																														
23/102	<p>Communications Working Party Cllr Garrett reminded all councillors to please fill in the local organisations contact spreadsheet that he has sent to everyone. The Clerk explained that 2Commune require the answers to some layout questions that she has sent to Cllr Garrett and Cllr Squires, once the invoice has been paid and the layout questions answered the new upgrade will begin. Cllr Garrett also asked that the Clerk posts a reminder on the website and on social media for residents to please complete the parish plan survey.</p>																														
23/103	<p>Community Events Committee Cllr Hook reported that the Community Events Committee met last Monday, the possibility of obtaining sponsorship of the Fireworks event was discussed with Cllr Moore agreeing to make some enquiries. The next meeting is September.</p>																														
23/104	<p>Green Lane Update Following some lengthy discussion regarding the hedgerows on Green Lane, it was agreed that this would be raised as an agenda item at the July meeting. In the meantime the Clerk would locate a map showing the land ownership along Green Lane in preparation for the parish council to discuss next steps in July. There is particular concern about the hedgerows along the lane.</p>																														

23/105	<p>Bus Service - to discuss the response from Stagecoach to the council's letter regarding the cessation of the bus service and to agree any further action.</p> <p>It was Resolved to move this item to the beginning of the meeting.</p>
23/106	<p>Correspondence and actions when needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Led Housing Roadshow - 10.30, Friday 7 July 2023, Guildhall, Northampton – Clerk circulated • Ability Bus – Promotion • CPRE Planning Roadshow – June 22nd Great Houghton Village Hall, 7pm £15pp non members – Clerk circulated • Ncalc Briefing on LAPS – Monday 26th June 7-8.30pm 2 delegates per council on zoom. It was agreed that Cllr Philips and Cllr Hook would attend.
23/107	<p>Next meeting date July 20th 2023 No August Meeting</p> <p>Meeting closed 8.40pm</p>